

Our Lady Of Peace Parish

17th August 2025
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

3914 Bloor Street West, Etobicoke, Ontario M9B 1L7

T: 416-239-1259 | E: olpeace@archtoronto.org | W: <https://olpeace.archtoronto.org>

Office Hours Monday to Friday 9:30 am - 12:30 pm & 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Our Mission

Guided by the love of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ, we the parish community of Our Lady of Peace come together embracing diversity and unity, to celebrate the Sacraments, to study the Word of God, and to provide unwavering support for one another. Through dynamic liturgical celebrations, meaningful fellowship, and continuous education, we strive to nurture each person's unique relationship with God and empower them to live out their faith in the world.

Holy Mass

Saturday
5:00 p.m.

Sunday
10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 a.m.

Confession

Saturday
4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Adoration & Benediction

First Friday
following 9:00 a.m. Mass

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals

Please contact the Parish Office

Our Pastor

Fr. Biju Kannampuzha
Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 3

Office Administrators

Rosanne Colavecchia
Teresa McNamara
tmcnamara@archtoronto.org
Tel: 416-239-1259 Ext 0

Youth Minister

Arnold Samson
asamson@archtoronto.org

Schools

Our Lady of Peace Catholic School

70 Mattice Ave, Etobicoke, ON M9B 1T6
(416) 393-5253

<https://www.tcdsb.org/o/ourladyofpeace>

St. Elizabeth Catholic School

5 Redcar Ave, Etobicoke, ON M9B 1J8
(416) 393-5278

<https://www.tcdsb.org/o/stelizabeth>



The fire Jesus came to bring is the fire of
God's love, justice, and holiness

Our catholic faith has been passed down from generation to generation. Please ensure our faith lives on for generations to come by remembering your parish in your Will.

"Faith on Fire: Running the Race, Speaking the Truth"

In today's readings, we meet three very different scenes—but they all speak to the same truth: following God's call is rarely comfortable, often costly, and always worth it.

First, we hear about the prophet Jeremiah. He was not a people-pleaser. He spoke God's truth even when it was unpopular, even when it seemed to discourage the people. The leaders wanted him silenced, thrown into a muddy cistern to die. Yet God raised up an unlikely rescuer—Ebed-melech, a foreigner, a man from Ethiopia—to pull Jeremiah out. Jeremiah's survival was not because he avoided conflict, but because he stayed faithful to the mission God gave him.

Then, the Letter to the Hebrews tells us to *"lay aside every weight... and run with perseverance the race set before us."* The race of faith is not a sprint; it's a marathon. And sometimes it feels like running uphill in the rain. But we are not running alone—we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses" cheering us on: the saints, the prophets, the martyrs, and all those who have gone before us. Most of all, we run with our eyes fixed on Jesus, who endured the cross because of the joy that was coming.

And finally, Jesus himself tells us something surprising: *"Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No... but division."* That's not because he delights in conflict, but because truth and love are not always welcomed. The fire Jesus came to bring is the fire of God's love, justice, and holiness—a fire that warms those who receive it, but also burns away what is false and selfish. That fire will sometimes put us at odds with the world, and even with those closest to us.

So, what does this mean for us today? It means that being faithful to Christ may put us in uncomfortable places—like Jeremiah in the mud. It may ask us to persevere in the face of misunderstanding, like the Christians addressed in Hebrews. It may require us to make choices that cause division—not because we are unkind, but because we cannot compromise on truth and goodness.

But here's the good news: God always provides the strength we need. Sometimes that strength comes in the form of unexpected people—like Ebed-melech. Sometimes it comes from the example of those who have run before us. And always, it comes from Jesus himself, who endured more than we ever will, and who now runs alongside us.

So today, let's ask for the courage to speak truth, the perseverance to keep running the race, and the fire of the Holy Spirit to keep our hearts burning for God. The muddy pits will come, the race will get hard, the divisions may hurt—but the joy set before us, life with Christ forever, makes it all worth it.

**Unpack the
Christian faith
together.**

[Click Here to read more about ALPHA](#)

Curious about faith?

ALPHA is for you

Join us for a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.

At each Alpha session, you'll be hosted in small groups, to share a meal, to watch an episode on a different question of life & faith – then you have a chance to share your thoughts and hear what others think.

All are welcome, no matter your background or beliefs, and it's completely free!

This series will start on Monday September 15th 2025 & runs for 11 sessions.
Doors will open each evening at 6:30 pm in Parish Hall.

*For more information on Alpha or to register online,
please see [Our Website - Click here](#) under "Parish Life" and select "Alpha"*

Forms will also available at the back of the church

Mass Intentions

Saturday 16th August - 5:00pm

†Melissa Lopes Bruno Lopes & Family

†Antoinetta Mazzucco Requested by Mazzucco Family

Special Intentions of the Cioffi Family

Sunday 17th August 2025

10:00am

†Marilyn Bower Requested by Jane Wallbridge

†Melanio & Ester Lopez Requested by Imelda Lopez

†Edward Staudinger Requested by Anna Maria & Andy

Special Intentions for Cyrus Thompson and

Carla & Anna Marie Lowe Requested by Jean Wade

11:30am

†Ross Shawaga Requested by Shawaga & Plut Families

Tuesday 19th August - 9:00am

†Fidela & †Crisanto Santamaria & †Manuel Erpelo

Requested by Nida Erpelo

Wednesday 20th August - 9:00am

Intentions of the Offi Family

Thursday 21st August - 9:00am

Special Intentions of Luljeta & Agostin Pllumbai

Special Intentions for Christine

Friday 22nd August July - 9:00am

†Jaroslav Rimar Requested by Barb Ziolkowski

Interested in Becoming Catholic or Deepening Your Faith?



Our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program begins in September 2025, and registration is open now! This program is for: Those not yet baptized. Those baptized in another Christian denomination. Those baptized in the Catholic Church but who have not yet received First Communion or Confirmation. Even fully initiated Catholics who wish to deepen their understanding, knowledge, and faith in God and the Church.

RCIA is a journey of faith, prayer, learning, and community. It offers a welcoming and supportive environment to explore the Catholic faith and prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact the parish office to register or meet the pastor.

Come and see what God may be inviting you to -
Your journey of faith starts here!



Sanctuary Candles
St Joseph: Dan & Wayne Curry
Requested by Currie Family



Coming this September: OLP Bible Study!

Join us this Fall for an in-depth study of Genesis 12-50 as we work our way through **The Patriarchs: Encountering the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob**, a Beth Moore Bible study.



Together, we will discover God's pursuit of a relationship with man and marvel as His plan to bless all people unfolds. Full of twists and turns, ruin and redemption, revelation and mystery, The Patriarchs will keep us captivated by the God who stars in it! We will explore concepts such as blessings, covenants, and promises; and the bearing each has on a New Testament believer's life today.

The study will run Thursday evenings from 6:45pm to 9:00pm starting September 18 and continue to November 27 (11 weeks). **Registration deadline is September 5th** and space is limited. The cost is \$10 (covers the cost of materials). For more details, please scan the QR code or reach out to Erin Bavcevic at erin.olpeace@gmail.com.

Pastoral Letters of Reference

If you anticipate needing a pastoral letter of reference from the pastor for applying to a position within the Catholic School Board, such as a Teacher or a Lunch Supervisor, or for roles like a Confirmation Sponsor or a Godparent, it is crucial to establish an early connection with the pastor. This ensures that the pastor has the opportunity to become acquainted with you. The reference letter aims to confirm that the candidate is a practicing Catholic, actively participating in the parish community by regularly attending Sunday Mass. Please note that a request for a letter of reference may not be fulfilled if the pastor lacks sufficient familiarity with the individual making the request.

Mass Intention Requests

If you would like to request a Mass for a deceased loved one, for healing, birthday wishes or in thanksgiving. Please contact the office. 415 239 1259 ext. 0

Announced Masses: \$20 (date of Mass provided, intention announced at the beginning of the Mass, printed in the bulletin and our website)

Unannounced Masses: \$10 (the Mass is celebrated privately, without a formal announcement in the parish bulletin or during services).



First Holy Communion Registration

Saturday 27th September 2025 after the 5pm Mass

First Holy Communion Mass Day - SUN 12th April 2026



Confirmation Registration

Saturday 4th October 2025 after the 5pm Mass

Confirmation Mass Day - SAT 11th April 2026




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